

# A WOODCHUCK

BY ERNEST HAROLD BAYNES

VERY early last spring, a woodchuck poked her black nose from the mouth of the burrow in which she had spent the winter, and blinked her little round black eyes in the sunlight. Then she came out, and lay basking on the mound of hard earth before her doorway. She looked very weak, and she was certainly dreadfully thin. Her grizzled pelt hung loosely on her bony frame, and when she moved it was with a languor not usually observed in woodchucks. The fact is that she had just awakened from an all-winter sleep, and as she had fasted since the previous October, she was not only drowsy but famished. But perhaps it was disuse as much as anything else which caused the evident weakness of her limbs, for as she moved about a little, stretching herself in different directions, it could be seen that she was gaining strength with every movement. By and by she turned around, and putting her head and shoulders into the burrow, began raking out, with her forepaws, all the earth, leaves and grass with which she had blocked the entrance in the fall. With this rubbish came many living things—black beetles, a hornet, and a large green frog, all of which had been sleeping away the winter at the woodchuck's door.

After she had made a neat pile in front of the burrow, and covered it up with fresh loam from the tunnel itself, the woodchuck had strength to go off in search of some food. There was very little to get just then, for the winter had barely gone, but she found a little patch of green clover on the sunny side of a large rock, a tuft or two of coarse grass near a spring, and with these, and a few mouthfuls of bark from a nearby tree, she managed to make a moderate breakfast. Then she returned to the burrow, and stayed there for two days. By that time the grass had grown considerably and the woodchuck had less difficulty in getting a meal. And every morning after food became more plentiful; the clover appeared in larger and thicker patches, and gradually the wrinkles in the grizzled skin of the groundhog began to disappear.

One morning, after the little rodent had had her morning meal of clover, and she was taking a sun bath on the mound of earth in front of her doorway, some small object struck the mound about six inches in front of her face and threw a pinch of the dirt sharply in her eyes. She did not know what the trouble was, and she did not stop to find out, but pitched headfirst into the burrow and stayed there. As she disappeared a small boy, brandishing a flint rifle and followed by a little yellow dog, jumped from behind a hillock and ran up to see how near he had come to the 'chuck. He pulled a grimace when he saw where his bullet had pitted the earth, reloaded his weapon and went back to his hiding place. But the woodchuck, not being quite a fool, remained where she was safe until the boy became tired of waiting and came back to the hole, the yellow dog still at his heels. The boy now picked up the dog and put its nose to the mouth of the burrow and, after a few words of encouragement, the cur, which had more assurance than wisdom, plunged into the black hole. The boy sat down on the mound of earth and yelled, "Sit 'em, Prince!" and for about a minute no doubt Prince was doing as he was bid. After that, it seems that the woodchuck did most of the "sleeking," for the dog backed out of the burrow with two terrible cuts on his head, and howling in a most unprincely manner. Then, tucking his tail as far between his legs as he could get it, he made for home by a short cut, and at his very best pace.

Not long after the woodchuck appeared at the mouth of the burrow with a family of five little ones. They had been born some time before, but this was their first appearance in the open. They were pretty, dark-eyed, soft-coated little fellows, ready to topple back again out of sight at a sign from their mother. Every morning now the whole family might have been seen moving through the grass to the spots where the clover grew the thickest. For a short time they lived in peace, but one evening they made themselves a powerful enemy by journeying into the next field and eating off, close to the ground, three long rows of young peas. The owner of the peas said very little, but he drove to town and brought back a stick of

dynamite, which he thrust far into the burrow. A minute later there was a muffled boom, and the farmer went off, satisfied that he would not be bothered again by that family of woodchucks. But in the evening a cautious gray head was thrust from the mouth of the hole and soon our old woodchuck crawled from her home and made off slowly across the field. The dynamite had killed the young ones, but the mother had only been stunned. She went directly to an old burrow which she had occupied two years before, and next morning there was a large heap of fresh earth in front of it. She lived there quietly until the latter part of the summer, when, returning after an absence somewhat longer than usual, she found the entrance to her home barred by a snarling black head, with a white stripe down the front. The premises had been seized by a skunk and the woodchuck was obliged to seek a residence elsewhere. She started to dig a fresh tunnel on the other side of the field and for hours she threw out the soil with her strong claws. The following afternoon she was still at work, when the figure of a man, in brown overalls, crept under the brow of the hill and lay down behind a rock at the top. For half an hour the woodchuck worked on, and at last she appeared at the doorway for a breathing spell. A little curl of white smoke leaped from behind the rock, there was a sharp report and the woodchuck dropped back into a newly-made grave.

ERNEST HAROLD BAYNES.

## Problem that Equals "Mary and Ann."

(Detroit Tribune.)

One hundred and eighty-six immigrants who arrived at Philadelphia a few days ago, on the Star line steamship Rhyndland, from Antwerp, were interested in the nationality of Marie Wiktorowska, who first saw the light of day as the liner made her way into the Delaware capes.

Born of Russian parentage, in American waters, on a ship flying the British flag, the question of her nationality is somewhat complicated.

Some argued that, as the child was born within the three-mile limit and in waters of the United States, she is an American, while others contended that she is a subject of King Edward because she was born on a British ship. The mother, with four children, are on their way from Russia to Milwaukee, Wis., to join the husband and father, who has prepared a home for them there.

The Rhyndland had on board 2,000 canaries from the Hartz mountain district in Germany. About thirty of the birds died during the passage.

## THE GENIAL IDIOT

(Continued from Section 4, Page 1.)

"I should judge that that young man will be an author some day," smiled Mrs. Pedagog.

"He is already, Madame," returned the Idiot. "He has delighted me frequently with a romance of his own in which Little Lord Fauntleroy goes out to capture an Ogre, and is eaten by the latter before he has a chance to draw his rickety whip and stab the wicked giant to the heart. It is a very short narrative, but it is full of dramatic situations, and in so far as pure fiction can be so, it strikes me as being relentlessly realistic."

"Did I understand you to say that there was a fifteen-year-old in that family who has reasoned out a philosophy that is worth while?" asked the Lawyer. "Yes," said the Idiot. "He belongs to the 'Don't Worry Club.' When he plays golf, and his ball lands in a hole he doesn't use imtemperate language the way his elders do, because, as he remarked the other day, he never knew a Golfer to sweat a ball out of a hole yet. When he broke his arm at football and I began to sympathize with him, he cut me short with the statement that it might have been his head, and then he couldn't play chess. When his father remonstrated with him for getting a six in Greek, he reminded the old gentleman that five would have been worse, and in response to his mother's mournful remark on a dark dreary day recently that 'there wouldn't be any sun today,' he smiled and said that there would be just as much sun as ever on the other side of the fog. Last year he asked his father for ten dollars at Christmas, but his daddy demurred and gave him only five. Three days later he informed his parent that he was mighty glad he hadn't given him ten dollars after all, because he'd had his pocket picked on the cars and his loss was only half what it might have been."

"Ha," said Mr. Whitechoker. "He is a philosopher." "Regular Sunny Jim, eh?" suggested the Bibliomaniac.

"That's what," said the Idiot. "It seems almost incredible that a boy of that age should be so calmly philosophical. But those are the facts. He's far ahead of his father in that respect."

"Oh, well—there's nothing new about it after all," said the Lawyer. "We have had the word of the Sages for centuries that the child is father to the man."

"Yes," said the Idiot, "but this twentieth century boy is better than that. He's a regular grandfather to the man. By and by if things keep on the way they are going posterity will put ancestry out of business altogether."

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## Bananas, Not Pajamas.

(New York Tribune.)

Walter Camp, the athletic adviser of Yale university, was recently entertaining a gathering of his undergraduate friends with experiences of his own.

He told of a dinner where a charming young woman was seated next to an exceedingly deaf old man. She had done her best to interest him, but had found it necessary to shout out each remark upon the third and fourth narration before the old man could catch the point.

So the time dragged along, till the dinner was waning and the fruit was passed.

The young woman determined to make a final effort at being agreeable, so she threw her voice into saying:

"Do you like bananas?"

"How's that?" asked her neighbor in a surprised tone.

"Do you like bananas?" she repeated.

"Well, my dear," he replied, "so long as you have introduced the topic, I will say that I much prefer the old fashioned nightshirt."

## Short Sentence Philosophy.

(Philadelphia Record.)

It is better to collect your thoughts than to borrow other people's.

The world suspects that a man is in love before he knows it himself.

The fellow who would marry for money finds it pretty hard work.

It's the worker who succeeds in life—not the fellow who is worked.

Take care of your enemies, and your friends will take care of themselves.

Some men are so easy-going that after a while they cease to go at all.

The people who are always looking for bargains seldom get rich as quickly as those who offer them.

There were no dentists in the days of the Spanish Inquisition, but they had instruments of torture just the same.

## SHEETS and Pillow Case Sets At Special Prices.

Hemstitched, Embroidered and Drawn Work, SHEETS AND PILLOW CASES TO MATCH SETS, that is, a sheet and two pillow cases, in a neat box.

Reduced from \$5.00 to \$3.45 a Set.

Reduced from \$5.25 to \$3.65 a Set.

Reduced from \$5.50 to \$3.90 a Set.

ESTABLISHED 1864

# J. Auerbach & Co.

ONE PRICE TO ALL NEVER UNDERSOLD

Marvelously Good Opportunities for Right Money Spending in Our

## MILLINERY SECTION!

We have prepared some exhilarating surprises for you. The choicest trimmed Hats this week at reduced prices. Don't leave it to another to get the very hat you so much wanted yourself, be quicker.

Just One Hat Taken at Random from the Collection--

**\$6.98** For your choice of our Hats; worth from \$9.00 to \$12.50. A chance to secure a model hat at less than the cost of the material. These hats are made of the very best material, everything the finest among them. Gray and white shirred Coney trimmed hats, only about twenty in this lot, but each a dream of correct millinery, and you'll miss it by not seeing them before others do.

# Between Now and Christmas We Are Determined that Every Department Shall Double its Sales.

To accomplish this means Price Concessions Beyond Anything Heretofore Attempted in the West. We are prepared to make them--to offer pre-eminently attractive inducements on the most carefully selected and worthiest merchandise ever brought to your notice. So here they are. An array of buying opportunities never surpassed anywhere--Prices to make early Xmas buying an incentive.

## A Sale of EVENING SILKS!

The many social functions planned for the season make an unusual demand for evening silks. Every day we hear the question, "When will you have a special sale of evening silks?" We here reply to these inquiries with the announcement that this is the week decided upon for this very interesting event, at which time every yard of our high-class evening wear silks will be substantially reduced.

### PEAU DE SOIE.

Nineteen inches wide, beautiful soft finish, high lustre, a full line of colors, including black and cream and all evening shades, regular price \$1.00, at per yard..... **85c**

### CREPE DE CHINE.

Twenty-four inches wide, heavy quality soft and clingy, in cream, black and all the evening tints, regular price \$1.25, on sale at, per yard..... **87½c**

### NOVELTY SILKS.

On our counter will be displayed 150 pieces of novelty silks, and included in this sale, comprising all the latest designs in fancy silks suitable for evening or street wear. Remember these silks are the product of America's best mills, and the opportunity to buy them so very much under price may not occur again; regular price up to \$1.75 per yard; on sale at..... **98c**

### EVENING SILK BROCADES.

A magnificent variety of silk and satin brocades for evening wear and wedding gowns, in cream and all delicate tints, worth up to \$3.00 per yard; on sale at..... **\$1.48**

### CREPE METEOR.

Twenty-four inches wide, soft and clingy, with high satin finish for ladies' waists and evening gowns, in cream, black, champagne, gray, and navy, usual price \$2.00, on sale at..... **\$1.50**

An artistic array of embroidered striped and figured effect white silk tissues. The most appropriate fabrics for evening wear, double-breasted, all reduced in this sale to, per yard..... **\$1.69**

Silk embroidered white silk chiffons, in the most exclusive designs, particularly handsome for evening gowns, 48 inches wide, regular \$3.00 and \$3.50; this week, a yard..... **\$1.83**

## Important Price-Cuts on Women's Outer Garments Stylish

A DECIDED AGGRESSIVE PUSHING DOWN OF PRICES ON COATS, SKIRTS AND WAISTS. WE ARE DETERMINED TO MAKE THIS THE BANNER WEEK OF THE SEASON, AND THESE ARE THE SORT OF VALUES THAT WILL DO IT.

### Price-Cuts on Coats. English Box Coats.



27 inches long, made of beaver cloth, collarless cape style, full bishop sleeves, mercerized lined, come in navy blue, tan, castor and black; regular \$3.50, special at..... **\$5.50**

NEW BOX COATS of medium weight kersey, in black, castor and tan, 27 inches long, satin lined throughout, stitched at neck and on cuffs; fully worth \$15.00; special at..... **\$10.00**

GRAVENETTE COATS—Rainproof, but made up in the stunning dress effects; come in Oxford grays with capes, belted and half-belted back, trimmed and tailored; cheap at \$20.00; special at..... **\$13.50**

FINE FITTING CORSET COAT—This charming coat is made of a good quality of English covert cloth, with strapped seams, fly front, lined with the best satin, has been selling at..... **\$15.00**

ELECTRIC SEAL JACKETS—22 inches long, heavy satin lined, large revers and collar, new shaped sleeves (all sizes); a bargain at \$27.00. Special at..... **\$13.98**

200 LADIES MELTON CLOTH WALKING SKIRTS, latest style, graduated flounce, all seams tailor-made, come in navy blue, Oxford gray and black, all lengths; these skirts were bought to retail at \$3.50. Special (while they last) at..... **\$1.98**

ASSORTMENT OF NEW DRESS AND WALKING SKIRTS, made up in cheviots, imported venetians and English tweeds; many are silk band or self strap-trimmed; none worth less than \$2.00. Special at..... **\$6.50**

BLACK SATIN WAISTS, made of heavy mercerized satin, tucked and plaited, large pouch sleeves, stock collar sizes 32 to 44; worth \$1.55. Special at..... **\$1.25**

FRENCH FLANNEL WAISTS, made with box plait, tucks and straps, etc., all colors and sizes, splendid styles; worth \$3.75. Special at..... **\$2.50**

PEAU DE SOIE SILK WAISTS, trimmed with side plaits and medallions, full sleeves, fancy stock collar, come in navy blue, pink, cardinal, pale blue and black; worth \$7.50; special..... **\$5.50**

A PRETTY LINE of all-over Lace Waists, with fancy medallion trimmings, silk lined; has the flowing sleeves, with deep pointed cuffs; a pretty waist for evening dress; cheap at \$12.50. Special at..... **\$8.95**

## Our Special Advance Sale of DOLLS

Christmas will be here before we know it. Buy your Dolls now and have the twofold advantage of lower prices and better selection. Every kind is shown here in every possible size and price, from the tiny 10c jointed doll to the ones as large as the children they are intended for, and all marked to insure a decided price saving.

### At 25c Each.

A pretty 12-inch kid body Doll, with movable eyes; shoes and lace stockings. Choice of a variety of neatly dressed dolls with full jointed bodies and bisque heads.

### At 50c Each.

A 17-inch high fine kid body doll, with movable eyes, light or dark hair; and a great variety of prettily dressed dolls—jointed bodies, bisque head, sleeping eyes, shoes and stockings—worth 50 per cent more.

### Finest Kid Baby Dolls

Kid body dolls, cork filled, full riveted, double jointed legs and arms; extra fine bisque head, sleeping eyes, shoes and stockings, on sale, according to size, from—

**\$1.25 to \$6.25 Ea.**

### At 90c Each.

A surprisingly pretty dressed Doll, 17 inches high, with full jointed body, fine bisque head, sewed wig, sleeping eyes, showing little shoes and openworked stockings. Also a variety of pretty kid body dolls. These are special bargains. Don't miss them.

### At \$1.25 Each.

We are offering a variety of exceptionally handsome elegantly dressed dolls, all with full jointed bodies, fine curly wigs, etc., and worth double that price.

### Finest Jointed Dolls

Fine jointed famous Kestner Dolls, with best sewed curly wigs, finest bisque head, sleeping eyes, shoes and stockings. These are the most celebrated and finest dolls made. Prices, for this advance sale, from—

**\$1.25 to \$9.50 Ea.**

## Special Sale of Children's White Aprons

SIZES 2 to 14 YEARS.

At Marked Reductions from Regular Prices.

Select any style you may, there is a great saving in the price from the cheapest to the best. Here are a few of the many prices:

**At 29c Each.**

Child's Apron, of white lawn with embroidery trimmed front; a very pretty style; worth 50c each.

**At 50c Each.**

Child's White Lawn Aprons, all sizes, in a great variety of exceptionally pretty styles, trimmed in embroidery insertion, edging and hemstitching. Not an apron in the lot worth less than 50c each.

**At \$1.00 Each.**

We are offering this week all our \$1.25 and \$1.50 grades of White Aprons. The styles and qualities are the best and prettiest ever shown at these prices.

## Beautiful Neckwear for Ladies

—AT—

NOTABLE MODERATE PRICE.

### SPECIAL NO. 1.

Chiffon Foundation Collars, all sizes, the 15c quality on sale at..... **8c**

### SPECIAL NO. 2.

A superb variety of pretty fancy collars in madras silk or velvet, all colors; they are splendid 40c value, at..... **23c**

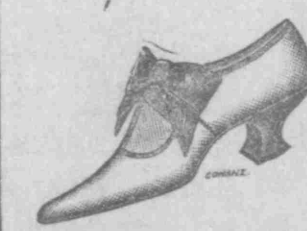
### SPECIAL NO. 3.

An elegant line of newest styles Bishop Collars in all the popular this season's materials, and a handsome variety of pretty ties; they are up to \$1.00 values; on sale this week, at..... **49c**

### SPECIAL NO. 4.

All Chiffon Collarettes and Bows from the cheapest to the best, to be closed out this week at—

**½ HALF PRICE ½**



## GREAT SLIPPER SALE IN OUR SHOE DEPT.

EXCEPTIONAL "CUT PRICES" FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.

LADIES' KID HOUSE SLIPPERS, low heel, \$1.15 values..... **89c**  
LADIES' KID STRAP SLIPPERS, buckle and bow, \$1.35 values..... **98c**  
LADIES' KID STRAP SLIPPERS, buckle and bow, \$1.65 values..... **\$1.35**  
LADIES' KID 3-STRAP DRESS SLIPPERS, \$2.00 values..... **\$1.58**  
LADIES' KID 4-STRAP DRESS SLIPPERS, \$2.50 values..... **\$1.95**

ALL FELT SLIPPERS at CUT PRICES This Week. It will Pay You to Buy Your Holiday Slippers of Us This Week.

## The Boys' Clothing and Gent's Furnishing Section

Will be taxed to the limit this week; these low prices the cause. Read about them:

GENT'S NECKWEAR—Special for one week, commencing Nov. 20, 25 dozen Gent's Tecks in the latest up-to-date patterns, 65c values; sale price..... **35c**

GENT'S HEAVY FLEECE UNDERWEAR—Assorted colors, 45c values; SALE PRICE..... **49c**

GENT'S AND BOY'S OUTFIT FLANNEL NIGHT-SHIRTS; all our 75c values this week; SALE PRICE..... **59c**

GENT'S AND BOY'S DRESS SHIRTS, made up in good percales, assorted patterns, regular \$1.00 values; SALE PRICE..... **59c**

GENT'S WOOLLEN OVERSHIRTS, in light and dark colors, non-shrinkable neckbands..... **\$1.15**

BOYS TWO-PIECE SUITS—Double-breasted and square cut; SALE PRICE..... **\$2.50**

BOYS' THREE-PIECE SUITS—Ages 8 to 16 years; SALE PRICE..... **\$2.95**

BOYS' LONG PANTS SUITS—Ages 14 to 20 years, in black, blue and gray mixtures; SALE PRICE..... **\$3.95**

BOYS' OVERCOATS—Ages 10 to 18 years; SALE PRICE..... **\$3.50**

BOYS AND YOUTHS' OVERCOATS—Ages 12 to 20 years, regular \$3.00 and \$10.00 values; SALE PRICE..... **\$6.00**

## THE FLANNEL DEPARTMENT

Is always busy. The magnificent variety and the low prices alone are enough to keep us busy, but for this week we offer you unusual bargains.

Hints:

20 pieces Extra Heavy Bleached Canton Flannel, a fine drill, long napped; value 15c, special..... **9c**

Our 40c White All Wool Flannels, special for this week, per yard..... **27½c**

10 Pieces of Celebrated Rochester Fine MIXED WOOL SHAKER FLANNELS—nothing better made for Ladies' or Children's Underwear; in either pink or blue, value \$4.00, on sale..... **\$3.30**

Shrinkable, in gray, brown, red or navy blue; regular price 50c, special for this week..... **37½c**

## Tinted Bed Spreads.

Astonishingly low are the prices we have made for this week. Patterns should realize the necessity of a quick response, for the best values will go first, and to secure them your visit should not be delayed. At these prices it will pay you to purchase for future wants, if not presently in need.

Fringed Colored Toilet Quilts, double bed size, reversible, size 30x36, value \$1.50, on sale at..... **98c**

Hemmed Colored Mitchelline Bed Spreads, size 11x36, regular \$2.25, on sale at..... **\$1.48**

Pink or blue, hemmed, and fringed Patent Weave Quilts, colors which improve in washing, extra large sizes, value \$2.75; this..... **\$1.85**

Single Bed Size Colored Fringed Bed Spreads, in pink, blue and navy tints, well worth \$3.50; special at, each..... **\$2.45**

11-4 Size Fringed Tinted Bed Spreads, Marcelline designs, in either pink or blue, value \$4.50; on sale..... **\$3.30**

Pearl Hemmed Tinted Satin Finished Quilts, in pink or light blues, patent finished, value \$4.00, go at, each..... **\$2.90**

Value \$4.50, go at, each..... **\$3.30**

Value \$5.00, go at, each..... **\$3.85**